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And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born--to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

THE COLLECTIVE
PART FOUR

Months ago, a devastating confrontation paired the X-Men and the New Avengers against the reality-altering powers of mutant and one-time Avenger, Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch. Afterwards, most of the mutants on Earth woke up to find themselves human--without their mutant gene.

Today, a mysterious energy force has hit the planet Earth. A figure of unspeakable power makes its way to the shores of Cleveland after obliterating Alpha Flight, Canada's premier super-team. S.H.I.E.L.D. has no choice but to call in Earth's mightiest heroes.

The Avengers divide into two teams--one to discover the exact nature of the threat and one to take on the physical confrontation. After the powerful being pulls Iron Man's armor apart and briefly returns Ms. Marvel's cosmic powers to her, the Sentry comes to the rescue, taking the entity and the battle out into space.

Meanwhile, scientific analyses of the being's powers come in, and the Avengers discover that he is a collective of energy once controlled by a large number of depowered mutants. The entity escapes from the Sentry and Iron Man and crashes back onto Earth…on the island of Genosha, once home to millions of mutants, but now a desolate wasteland.

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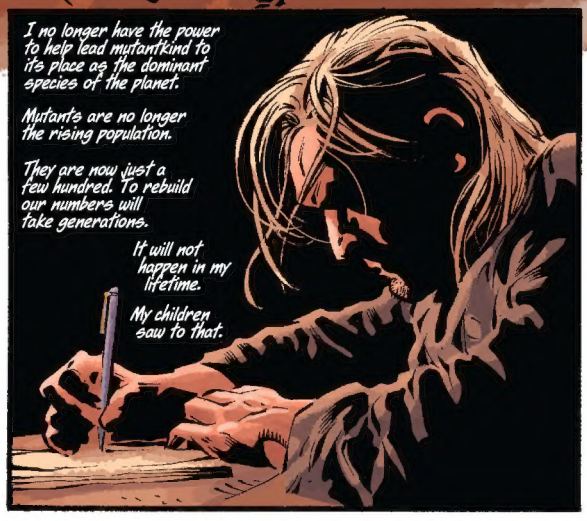
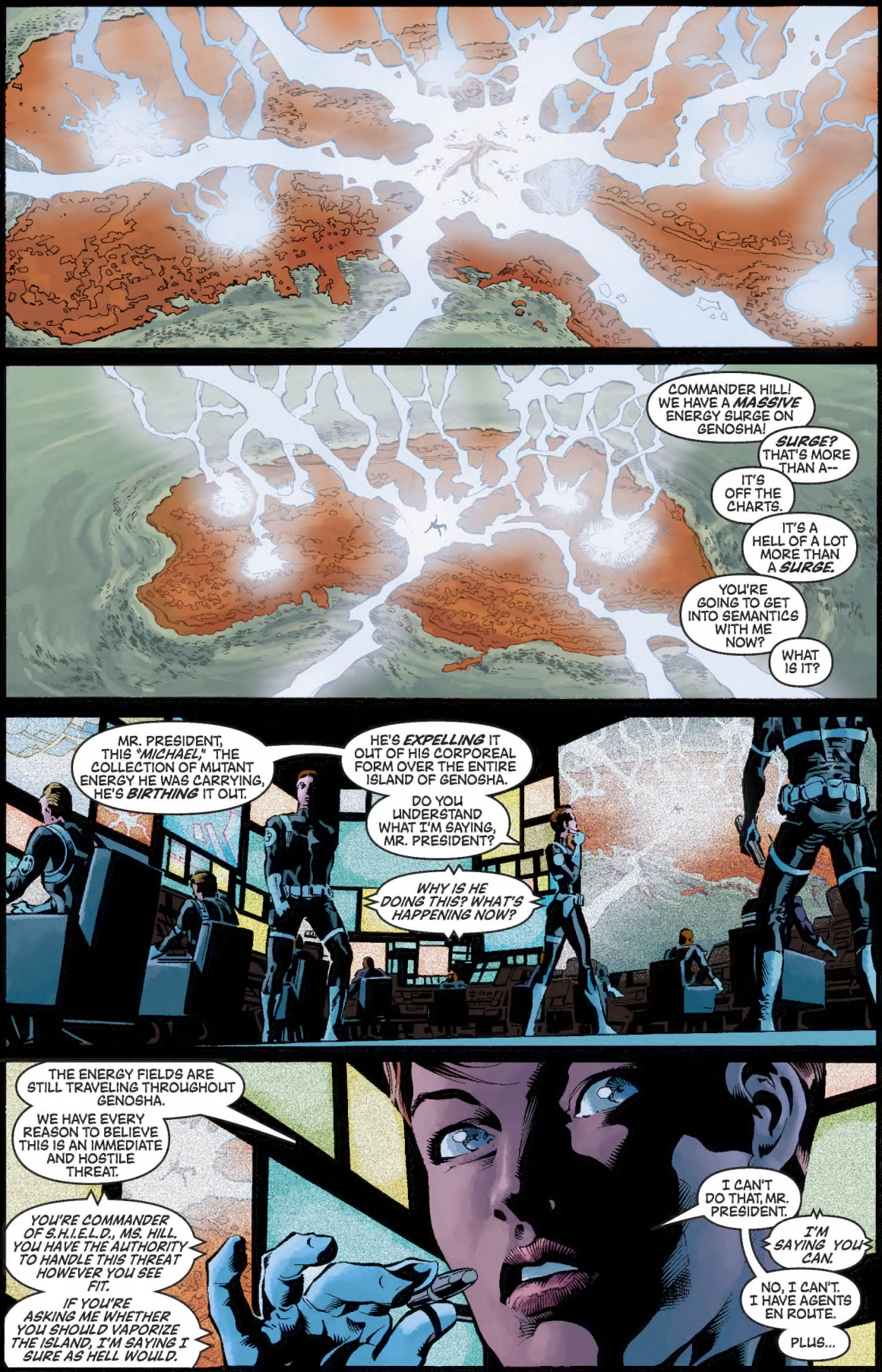
The name the Homo Sapiens gave me is Eric Magnus Lehnsherr.

My mutant name is Magneto.
Though I am no longer a mutant.
My mutant genealogy has been destroyed, and I no longer control the magnetic fields of the Earth.


I no longer have the power to help lead mutantkind to its place as the dominant species of the planet.
Mutants are no longer the rising population.
They are now just a few hundred. To rebuild our numbers will take generations.
It will not happen in my lifetime.
My children saw to that.

I don't know what I am writing.
A manifesto? A biography? A suicide note?
I haven't decided.

My life as I knew it, for all its success and failure, is over.
I am stuck here in a desolated graveyard that--


COMMANDER HILL! WE HAVE A *MASSIVE* ENERGY SURGE ON GENOSHA!
SURGE? THAT'S MORE THAN A--
IT'S OFF THE CHARTS.
IT'S A HELL OF A LOT MORE THAN A *SURGE.*
YOU'RE GOING TO GET INTO SEMANTICS WITH ME NOW?
WHAT IS IT?
MR. PRESIDENT, THIS *"MICHAEL,"* THE COLLECTION OF MUTANT ENERGY HE WAS CARRYING, HE'S *BIRTHING* IT OUT.
HE'S *EXPELLING* IT OUT OF HIS CORPOREAL FORM OVER THE ENTIRE ISLAND OF GENOSHA.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING, MR. PRESIDENT?
WHY IS HE DOING THIS? WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?
THE ENERGY FIELDS ARE STILL TRAVELING THROUGHOUT GENOSHA.
WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THIS IS AN IMMEDIATE AND HOSTILE THREAT.
YOU'RE COMMANDER OF S.H.I.E.L.D., MS. HILL. YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO HANDLE THIS THREAT HOWEVER YOU SEE FIT.
IF YOU'RE ASKING ME WHETHER YOU SHOULD VAPORIZE THE ISLAND, I'M SAYING I SURE AS HELL WOULD.
I CAN'T DO THAT, MR. PRESIDENT.
I'M SAYING YOU CAN.
NO, I CAN'T. I HAVE AGENTS EN ROUTE.
PLUS...

...THE AVENGERS ARE THERE.
IRON MAN, TELL US--
THAT, CAPTAIN AMERICA, IS A MASSIVE ENERGY TRANSFERENCE.
WHAT'S IT TRANSFERRING TO?
I'M NOT THERE YET, SPIDER-MAN. STILL SCANNING. IT'S A LOT TO TAKE IN, EVEN FOR ME.
STAY TOGETHER, LUKE.
SO WHAT DO WE DO?
WE HAVE TO TIME THIS RIGHT. I HAVE A PLAN, BUT IT'S A ONE-SHOT DEAL.
YAY, I LOVE A ONE-SHOT DEAL.
WAIT, WHY ARE WE ASSUMING THIS IS BAD?
WELL, THERE'S THE WHOLE THOUSANDS OF MUTANT-CONTROLLED ENERGY FIELDS INSIDE A MYSTERY MAN IN A PLACE WHERE MILLIONS OF MUTANTS DIED? SOUNDS BAD.
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
BUT THIS ISLAND IS A TOMB. MILLIONS OF MUTANTS DIED HERE.
THERE'S NOTHING HERE. THERE'S NOBODY HERE.
THERE'S SOMEBODY HERE.

YOU'RE THE ONE, MAGNETO.

YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE THE MUTANTS WILL RISE UP AND FOLLOW.

AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN AVENGE THEM NOW.

DON'T FIGHT ME, ERIC.

ACCEPT THIS GIFT. ACCEPT IT.

ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE USED TO MAKE THIS RIGHT.

THEY NEED TO SEE *YOUR* FACE.

WE TRIED TO DO IT WITHOUT YOU-- TRIED USING *YOUR* NAME, *YOUR* FACE-- BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.

IT ONLY WORKS WITH YOUR MIND. YOUR PERFECT MIND.

AND NOW WE'VE BEEN GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE.

EVEN BEFORE THIS LATEST CATASTROPHE AGAINST OUR SPECIES, WE LEARNED THAT IT HAS TO BE *YOU* THAT BRINGS THE MUTANTS THEIR WORLD.

IT'S MEANT TO BE.

WHO ARE YOU?

THIS BODY THAT WE CAME TO YOU WITH IS JUST A VESSEL.

IT ABSORBED ALL OF OUR ESSENCE BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THIS MUTANT DOES.

BUT IT'S BEEN FIGHTING US AT EVERY STEP.

IT'S BARELY ABLE TO HOLD TOGETHER WHAT WE HAVE BROUGHT FOR YOU.

BUT WE NEEDED HIM TO GET *HERE*.

WITHOUT A BODY, THE COLLECTIVE IS USELESS. WE TRIED.

WHO ARE YOU?!

BUT NO MORE. NOW WE HAVE EACH OTHER.

YOU *KNOW* WHO WE ARE!

WE KILLED FIVE THOUSAND IN YOUR NAME.

CAN YOU *FEEL* IT INSIDE YOU NOW? CAN YOU FEEL THE CONNECTION?

NO!

YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE!!

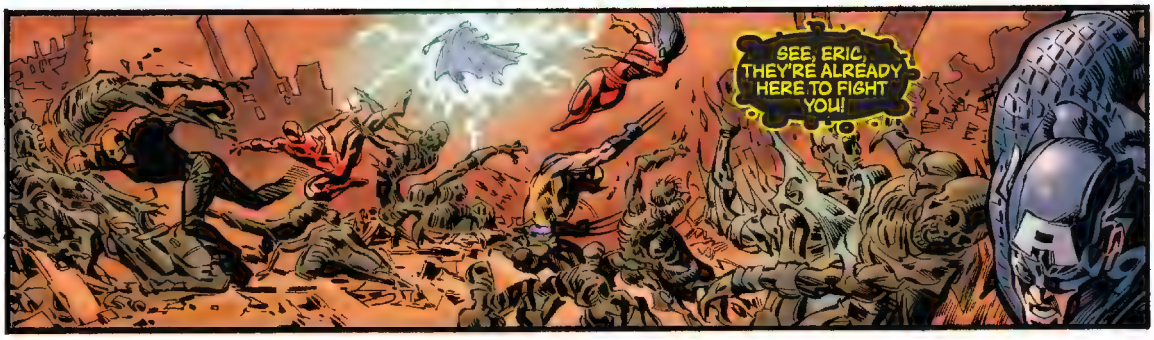
SAY IT!!

SAY OUR NAME!!

XORN!

XORN, AS IN THE YUTZ WHO TRASHED NEW YORK?
OH, GREAT, MAGNETO'S BACK.
OKAY, NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
THANKS FOR THE NEW METAL SUIT BY THE WAY.
EVERYONE HEAR THAT VOICE IN THE AIR?
OH YEAH.
WE ALL HEARD IT.
YOU HEARD THE "XORN?"
OK, JUST CHECKING.
HE DOESN'T LEAVE THE ISLAND, BOB, YOU HEAR ME?
MAGNETO DOES NOT LEAVE THIS ISLAND!
NO, WE TURN AROUND AND LEAVE!
WE SHOULD GET OFF THIS ISLAND. S.H.I.E.L.D. CAN TAKE CARE OF IT.
I COULD JUST--
IT HAS TO STAY CONTAINED.
TAKE CARE OF IT?
WIPE IT OFF THE MAP.
YOU'LL NEED AN ARMY, ERIC!
YOU'LL NEED AN ARMY THAT REMINDS THEM OF WHAT THEY'VE DONE!
I COULD SINK THE ISLAND, IF--
NO.
YES!
WE KNOW THE THREAT NOW, AND IT NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH.
I'M TELLING YOU THERE'S A SOLUTION, AND WE MAY BE STANDING IN ITS WAY.
HOLD ON, I'VE LOST CONTACT WITH S.H.I.E.L.D.
SOMETHING'S BLOCKING THE SIGNAL.
RISE UP!
I THINK JESSICA'S RIGHT, WE BETTER--
OH, MAN...

MY FILES ON THIS XORN ARE INCOMPLETE.
ANYONE ELSE HEAR WHISPERS?
SHUSH, I'M CONCENTRATING ON THE SMELL.
XORN'S FILES ON XORN ARE INCOMPLETE.
THE X-MEN HAD SOME SERIOUS--RRAARRGHH--TROUBLE WITH HIM OR THEM A WHILE BACK!


SEE, ERIC, THEY'RE ALREADY HERE TO FIGHT YOU!

AN EXAMPLE WILL BE MADE!

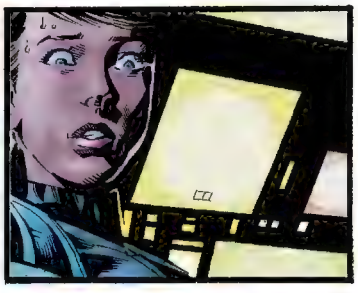
YOU'RE UP, BOB.
TAKE OFF YOUR BELT! NO METAL!
AND GO!
HE STAYS ON THE ISLAND!
I CAN THROW HIM INTO THE SUN.

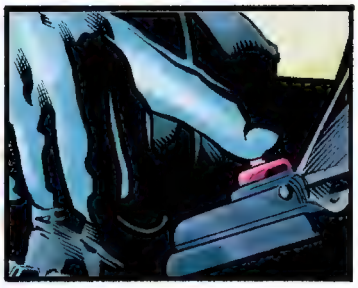
HE STAYS ON THE ISLAND!
FABOOOM
HI.
MICHAEL?
YEAH?
YOU OKAY?
UH, WHAT IS GOING ON?
FABOOOM

MS. HILL, YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO END THIS THREAT. WE STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT YOU TAKE IT.
MR. PRESIDENT, THE AVENGERS ARE ON THE ISLAND, DEALING WITH THE THREAT.
THE AVENGERS THAT YOU REQUESTED I--
MS. HILL!

MY PEOPLE HERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM SAY THERE ISN'T ANY WAY THE AVENGERS CAN HANDLE THE LEVEL OF POWER BEING TOSSED AROUND.
YOU NEED TO TAKE CHARGE.
SIR, YOU'RE ORDERING ME TO KILL THE AVENGERS?

SACRIFICE.
THERE'S A DIFFERENCE.
AND THEIR MEMORIES WILL BE HONORED. YOU HAVE TO THINK OF THE LIVES YOU'RE SAVING. MILLIONS OF LIVES.





I'M SORRY, MISTER PRESIDENT.
WE ALREADY HAVE A PLAN IN MOTION.

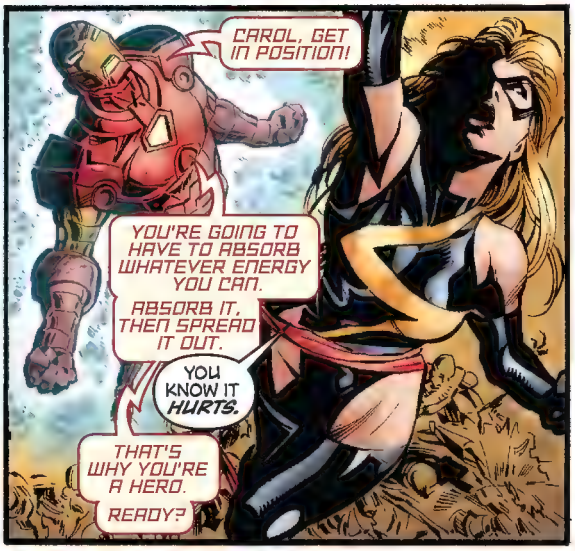
MR. STARK, NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO SET A PLAN IN MOTION.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
AGENT CARTER, IS YOUR TEAM ON THE ISLAND?

WE ARE.
AGENT DAISY JOHNSON IS WITH ME.
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE HER DO?

CAP?

CAP, OUR AGENT DAISY JOHNSON IS HERE.
TELL HER TO DO TO MAGNETO WHAT SHE DID TO WOLVERINE THAT TIME.
BUT AIM FOR THE BRAIN.

--DO TO MAGNETO WHAT YOU DID TO WOLVERINE, BUT AIM FOR THE BRAIN?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO WOLVERINE?
I STARTED A PIN-POINT EARTHQUAKE TREMOR IN HIS CHEST AND HIS HEART EXPLODED.
WON'T DOING THAT TO MAGNETO'S HEAD KILL HIM?
I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE.


CAROL, GET IN POSITION!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ABSORB WHATEVER ENERGY YOU CAN.
ABSORB IT, THEN SPREAD IT OUT.
YOU KNOW IT HURTS.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE A HERO.
READY?

DO IT.
KILL ME. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO ME.
COMMANDER HILL, I'M GOING TO NEED A LOT OF POWER.
TAKE WHAT YOU NEED.
AGENT JOHNSON.
READY...
...I GUESS.
CAROL?
YEAH, YEAH.
(THIS IS GONNA HURT.)
PLEASE...
DO IT.

WHOA...
AAGHH!
FLAUMPH

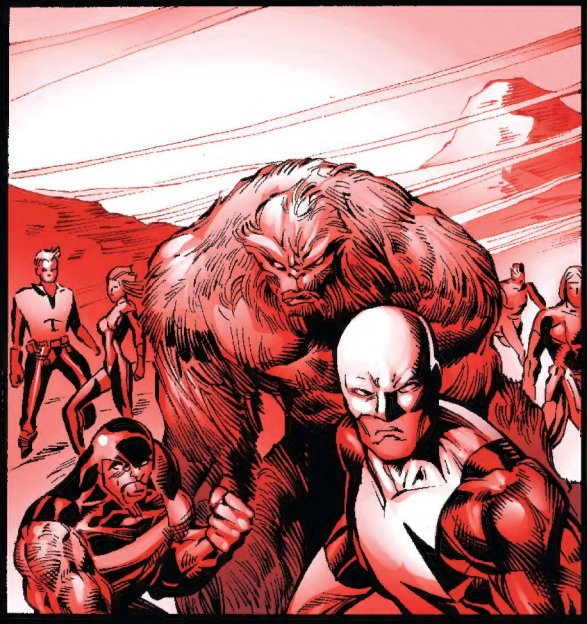
I'VE TRAPPED IT IN AN ENERGY FIELD. IT WON'T HOLD FOREVER. IT'S NOW OR NEVER.
YOU STILL WANT TO FLY SOMETHING INTO THE SUN?
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU.

WELL.
NO MORE XORN.
AND MAGNETO?
THAT WAS WELL DONE, AGENT.
QUAKE.
WHAT'S THAT?
MY AVENGERS NAME. I WANT TO BE CALLED QUAKE.
I'M SORRY, WE'RE NOT LOOKING TO ADD ANY MEMBERS.
OH.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE RECRUITING ME.
NO. I'M SORRY.
WE JUST NEEDED YOUR HELP HERE WITH THIS ONE THING.
WELL, *THIS* IS EMBARRASSING.

MICHAEL POINTER, HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
YOU KNOW MY NAME?
WE DO NOW.
WHAT'S-- WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?
WELL, AS BEST AS WE CAN GATHER, YOU ARE AN ENERGY-ABSORBING MUTANT. AND YOU--
I AM?

AND YOU WERE USED AS A VESSEL TO TRANSPORT A LARGE LIVING COLLECTIVE OF MUTANT ENERGIES HERE TO GENOSHA.
I'M A MUTANT SINCE WHEN?
I GUESS, SINCE FOREVER.

SNOW.
I WAS WALKING IN SNOW.



I-I KILLED PEOPLE.

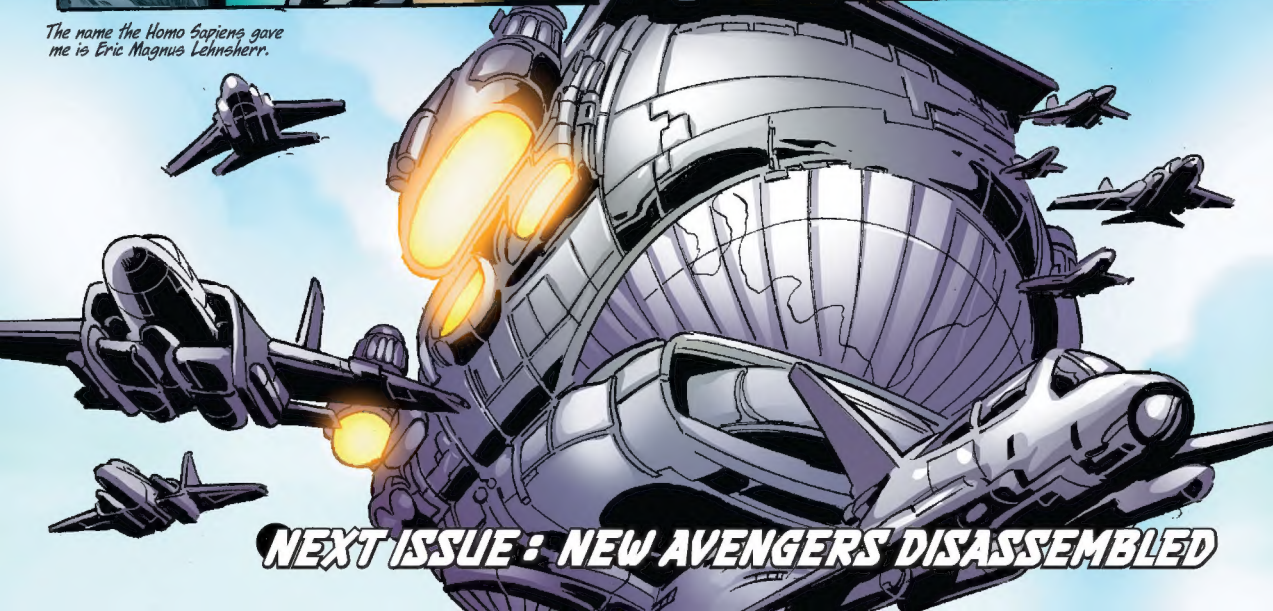
HEROES!
YOU KILLED HEROES!

IT WASN'T YOU. YOU WERE BEING USED.
YOU'RE NOT TO BLAME.
TELL THAT TO ALPHA FLIGHT!
WHAT'S-- WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?
YOU SEEM TO HAVE KEPT SOME RESIDUAL ENERGY FIELDS FOR YOURSELF.
WHAT?
I-I HAVE POWERS?
THE QUESTION IS, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THEM?
THE QUESTION IS, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE IT UP TO THE WORLD FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN CANADA AND ALASKA?
WE'LL START HIS TRAINING AND TESTS IMMEDIATELY.
MAYBE WE GOT A NEW SUPER HERO OUT OF THE DEAL.
MAYBE.
CAN WE GO? I DO BELIEVE I HATE THIS PLACE.

ERIC MAGUS LEHNSHERR, YOU ARE UNDER ARREST FOR TERRORIST CRIMES AGAINST MANKIND.
HE CAN'T HEAR YOU.
IS HE GOING TO LIVE?
WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN.
WHY?
WELL, WHEN YOU WAKE UP...
...YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR TERRORIST CRIMES AGAINST MANKIND.
THANK YOU FOR NOT NUKING US.
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE REFERRING TO.
NICE OF YOU TO LET ME EAVESDROP ON THAT CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT.
DID I DO THAT?
SEEMS I'VE WILDLY MISJUDGED YOUR GOINGS-ON.
NOW YOU SEE THE SITUATION I'M IN.
DID YOU EVER SEE--
FABOOM

"NO SIGN OF HIM, COMMANDER HILL."
"NO SIGN? NOT EVEN A FOOT? FLOATING THERE IN THE--"
"HIS BODY COULD HAVE BEEN INCINERATED IN THE EXPLOSION."

The name the Homo Sapiens gave me is Eric Magnus Lehnsherr.



NEXT ISSUE : NEW AVENGERS DISASSEMBLED